



Governor Terry E. Branstad

Lt. Governor Kim Reynolds

San Wong, Director

## JUVENILE JUSTICE ADVISORY COUNCIL

"To advocate for an effective, fair and equitable justice system for every Iowa youth."

### MINUTES OF ELECTRONIC MEETING

**Origination site: Lucas State Office Building**

**321 E. 12<sup>th</sup> Street**

**Des Moines, IA 50319**

**April 23, 2015**

**Present:** Joel Illian, Chair; Andrew Allen; Candice Bennett; Rob Bonus; Judge Stephen-Clarke; Karyn Finn; Wayne Ford; Margaret Johnson; Karen Jones; Jeremy Kaiser; Roy Klobnak; Dillon Malone; Bill Ocker; John Quinn; Carl Smith; Shauna Soderstrum; Jennifer Tibbetts; Julie Walton; Jeralyn Westercamp; Doug Wolfe

**Staff:** Steve Michael; Scott Musel;

**Others present:** Tom Southard

#### **I. Call to Order – Joel Illian**

- Changes and Approval of Agenda – **Action**

Joel Illian called the meeting to order at 11:08 a.m. The agenda was approved as presented.

#### **II. Approve Minutes – Joel Illian – Action**

Doug Wolfe moved to approve the minutes from the December 4, 2014 meeting, seconded by John Quinn. The motion was unanimously approved.

#### **III. Division Update/National Update – Steve Michael**

Steve Michael, Division Administrator, discussed the following:

- A status quo CJP budget was approved by Senate, but has not been released by the House. If neither bill passes both chambers, the matter will go to a conference committee.
- JJRRI/SPEP (Juvenile Justice Reform & Reinvestment Initiative/Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol)—Michael explained that funding for the project ends in September. While there was interest from legislators during the budget presentation, there has been no increase in the budget to sustain the effort and it does not look likely. However, the Division may request a no-cost extension that would sustain the project up to one year, but would likely affect expansion.

- National Girls Initiative Grant—CJJP was notified that Iowa was selected, but they want to modify the proposed budget. Changes may affect ability to do the project. A conference call is planned to further discuss the issue.
- Juvenile Reentry—the Task Force has met several times. A strategic plan will be submitted as a grant application for implementation funding. Dave Kuker is staffing the project; a facilitator was hired. Recent discussions have surrounded needs for a true reentry process. While some things are in place, improvements include coordination of communication and timeliness of supports.
- Sen. Grassley—is interested and will be submitting a bill to reauthorize the JJDP Act. A hearing was held regarding OJJDP practices on compliance issues. A letter in support of reauthorization has been sent to Senator Grassley.

[Wayne Ford departed the meeting at 11:18 a.m.]

#### **IV. Council Budget Report – Scott Musel**

Scott Musel reported that a balance of \$13,000 remains until the end of September. Anticipated expenses include travel reimbursements for several upcoming subcommittee meetings and travel expenses for Joel Illian's attendance at the Coalition for Juvenile Justice annual conference in Washington, DC.

Musel reported that the Policy & Programs Subcommittee plans to wait until the end of the fiscal year before making adjustments to any subcommittee budgets.

#### **V. Three-Year Plan Priorities and Goals Approval – John Quinn – *Action***

The Council began to review the priorities and goals. However, it was discovered that the version distributed in the meeting packet was not the most current. There was consensus to table the matter to the June meeting. In the meantime, a current version will be shared with council members. Any changes should be shared with Scott Musel by May 8. The final must be submitted to OJJDP by June 16.

#### **VI. Legislative Actions and Progress**

Musel shared information regarding the intent of three juvenile-related bills.

- SF292 relates to sealing juvenile records that were handled either informally or dismissed by juvenile court. Youth do not have to make a special request, it will be an automatic process. Although it has passed both chambers, the Governor has not yet signed it. A letter of support was sent by Illian and Quinn on behalf of the Council.
- SF412 relates to child welfare and extends juvenile court services to age 21 to provide support to youth transitioning to adulthood. Any new offense by a youth would be initiated in criminal or district court.
- SF448 changes the sentencing structure for juveniles convicted of an 'A felony' offense. Judge Stephen Clarke noted that this change to the Iowa Code

incorporates interpretations of both U.S. and Iowa Supreme Court decisions.

- SF385—allows cases (both adult and juvenile) that were acquitted or dismissed to be expunged.

## **VII. Juvenile Justice Budget Development Process**

Musel reviewed a meeting handout that listed subcommittee expenditures for the current federal fiscal year. Most of the expenses were travel related for the various subcommittees and CJJ dues.

Steve Michael added that the Policy & Programs Subcommittee will revisit the subcommittee budgets and bring forward any recommendations to the full Council at the June meeting.

## **VIII. Unfinished Business**

None.

## **IX. New Business**

Carl Smith reviewed legislation passed last year relating to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade retention. He has shared an email with Scott Musel that he sent to the Department of Education. Starting in 2017, youth who don't meet criteria and whose parents aren't taking initiative would repeat 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. He voiced concern with how this could relate to the school-prison pipeline. In some states, further investigation found that testing criteria were lowered. Musel will share the letter and legislation with members. The subject will be added to the Policy & Programs Subcommittee agenda.

## **X. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 12:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Rinker  
Administrative Secretary  
Div. of Criminal & Juvenile Justice Planning  
Iowa Department of Human Rights